CENTER FOR

VASCULAR BIOTHERAPEUTICS

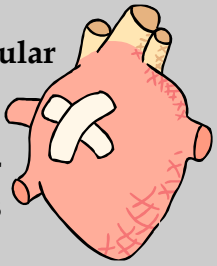
CENTER

UNIVERSITY OF UTAH

The Center for Vascular Biotherapeutics is focused on commercializing medical strategies and devices that target blood vessel formation for the treatment of cancer and obstructive vascular diseases such as atherosclerosis. This Center capitalizes on a robust scientific program aimed at deciphering the molecular blueprint for vessel regeneration using human genetics and transgenic mice technologies; these technologies were pioneered at the University of Utah. The "Functional Vascular Genetics" program established at the University of Utah is identifying genes that are essential for vascular development. This program has significantly contributed to the understanding of how blood vessels are formed, and produced publications in the most prestigious scientific journals (e.g. *Nature, Science, Nature Genetics, Journal of Clinical Investigation, American Journal of Physiology).*

Can you imagine…..

Deciphering the molecular blueprint for vessel regeneration, in order to treat cancer and other vascular diseases such as atherosclerosis?



TECHNOLOGY

There are two major thrusts of the program. The first involves understanding the role of the matrix protein elastin in regulating vascular smooth muscle cell proliferation, migration and differentiation. The second is to identify novel molecular pathways involved in angiogenesis. The purpose of the center is to commercialize the scientific discoveries of the program.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

In the first year, the Center has met all three of its critical commercialization objectives: testing therapeutics in pre-clinical trials, licensing its intellectual property to private industry, and spinning off a biotechnology company.

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